

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A pneumatic tire comprising a cylindrical crown portion, and a pair of sidewalls and a pair of bead portions, the sidewalls and the bead portions being continuous from both sides of the crown portion, in which a continuous decorative portion, and protruding portions are arranged on at least one of the sidewalls,

wherein the continuous decorative portion includes serrations having a pattern of tops and bottoms which continue with each other, the tops of the serrations protruding higher than the bottoms of the serrations with respect to a direction of protruding from the sidewall on which the decorative portion is arranged, wherein the bottoms of the serrations are formed at a root groove line,

wherein the protruding portions protrude higher than the tops of the serrations with respect to the direction of protruding from the sidewall, the protruding portions including at least one of a character and a mark, and

wherein each protruding portion adjoins to the serrated decorative portion at a joined portion that is provided around the protruding portion, wherein bottoms of the joined portion are higher than the root groove line with respect to the direction of protruding from the sidewall.

2. (previously presented): The pneumatic tire according to claim 1, further comprising a high decorative portion including serrations having a pattern of tops and bottoms that is provided between the protruding portions,

wherein the protruding portions adjoin the high decorative portion at joined portions of the respective protruding portions, and the bottoms of the high decorative portions are higher than the root groove line with respect to the direction of protruding from the sidewall.

3. (currently amended): A pneumatic tire comprising a cylindrical crown portion, and a pair of sidewalls and a pair of bead portions, the sidewalls and the bead portions being continuous from both sides of the crown portion, in which a continuous decorative portion and protruding portions are arranged on at least one of the sidewalls,

wherein the continuous decorative portion includes serrations having a pattern of tops and bottoms which continue with each other, the tops of the serrations protruding higher than the bottoms of the serrations with respect to a direction of protruding from the sidewall on which the decorative portion is arranged, wherein the bottoms of the serrations are formed at a root groove line,

wherein the protruding portions protrude higher than the tops of the serrations with respect to the direction of protruding from the sidewall, and

wherein each protruding portion adjoins to the serrated decorative portion at a joined portion that is provided around the protruding portion, wherein bottoms of the joined portion are higher than the root groove line with respect to the direction of protruding from the sidewall;

wherein a flat portion continuously extends between ~~the~~ one of the protruding portions and another of the protruding portions, and the flat portion is higher than the root groove line with respect to the direction of protruding from the sidewall;

wherein each of the protruding portions forms a character, respectively, and the flat portion is formed between the characters.

4. (previously presented): The pneumatic tire according to claim 3, wherein a ratio of a width of the flat portion is 40 to 70% with respect to a width between ends of top surfaces of the protruding portions.

5. (previously presented): The pneumatic tire according to claim 3, wherein a corner region connecting the flat portion and each protruding portion is formed of a round portion.

6. (original): The pneumatic tire according to claim 5, wherein the round portion has a radius of 0.2 to 1.0 mm.

7. (currently amended): The pneumatic tire according to any one of claims 1 or 2, wherein a height from the root groove line to the bottoms of the joined portion that is provided around the protruding portion is set within a range of 30% to 70% with respect to a height from the root groove line to each top surface of the protruding portions.

8. (canceled).

9. (previously presented): The pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein the protruding portions comprise a group of letters.

10. (canceled).

11. (previously presented): The pneumatic tire according to claim 3, wherein the protruding portions comprise a group of letters.

12 -14. (canceled).